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S/N 09/877,606

PATENTIN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Min Lu et al.

Examiner: Jeffrey S. Parkin

Serial No.: 09/877,606

Group Art Unit: 1648

Filed: June 8, 2001

Docket: 1676.002US1

Title: ANTIGEN FOR DEVELOPING NEUTRALIZING ANTIBODIES TO HUMAN  
IMMUNODEFICIENCY VIRUSPRELIMINARY AMENDMENTCommissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

As discussed in a telephone interview, the Examiner has agreed to review a modified set of claims with consideration toward modifying or withdrawing the Requirement for Restriction dated July 30, 2002. Accordingly, applicant requests that the application be amended as follows prior to taking up the above-identified patent application for further review:

In the Specification

Please enter the enclosed substitute SEQUENCE LISTING into the specification.

Please substitute the paragraph in the appendix entitled "Clean Version of the Paragraph Beginning at Line 10, Page 5" for the paragraph beginning at line 10, page 5 of the specification. Specific amendments to this paragraph are detailed in the following marked-up paragraph:

Figure 2B schematically depicts a chimera of gp41 (residues 536 to 666) and the GCN4-pII peptide (14). The amino acid sequence of the COOH-terminal extension of gp41 is shown in an expanded view (SEQ ID NO:1). Residues in the *a* and *d* positions of gp41 residues, and GCN4-pII in heptad register, are indicated. A continuous helix is assumed between the gp41 coiled coil and GCN4-pII. The locations of serine substitutions for Ile<sup>573</sup> and Leu<sup>576</sup> in the NH<sub>2</sub>-terminal heptad-repeat region are indicated by arrows.

Please substitute the paragraph in the appendix entitled "Clean Version of the Paragraph Beginning at Line 19, Page 5" for the paragraph beginning at line 19, page 5 of the specification. Specific amendments to this paragraph are detailed in the following marked-up paragraph:

Figure 3A shows the helical wheel projection of C45-pII (SEQ ID NO:2). View is from the NH<sub>2</sub> terminus. The amino acid sequence of C45 (residues 624 to 668) is shown in red. The